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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: HILMAR NIKLAUS ART UNIT: 3679

SERIAL NO.: 09/868,159 EXAMINER: VICTOR L. MacARTHUR

FILED: JUNE 22, 2001

TITLE: DETACHABLE ASSEMBLY OF TWO ELEMENTS

PETITION UNDER RULE 136(a) FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION

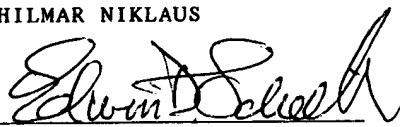
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), for a three-month extension, until April 6, 2004, in which to file a Response to the third Office Action, dated October 6, 2003, for the above-identified patent application. The shortened statutory period for response expired on January 6, 2004. The requisite fee of \$475.00 (small entity) is enclosed.

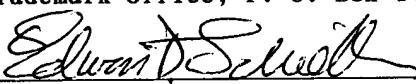
Respectfully submitted,

HILMAR NIKLAUS

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail addressed to: Hon. Commissioner for Patents, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Edwin D. Schindler, Reg. No. 31,459

April 5, 2004

Date